

# More Post-GOP Tax Cut Heist Mass Layoffs

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

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*Walmart is the latest offender, the world's largest private employer with around 2.1 million workers and staff.*

*It's also one of the most abusive, notorious for anti-worker practices, including low-pay, poor or no benefits, opposition to unions, racial and gender discrimination, and other mistreatment of its workforce and suppliers, along with disturbing environmental practices.*

A 2005 documentary titled "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price" scathed the company's unethical practices, its use of undocumented workers for after-hours cleanup crews, paid well below minimum wage.

Its entry into communities devastates small retailers, unable to compete.

The advocacy group **Making Change at Walmart, sponsored by the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW)**, calls for transforming the company into a responsible employer.

Like present and former workers, it accused Walmart of mistreating employees, paying them poverty wages, assigning them erratic schedules, and other disturbing practices.

It's a corporate predator, exploiting workers, communities and suppliers for maximum profits.

According to [ThinkProgress](#) (TP), Walmart announced up to \$1,000 employee bonuses on Thursday - the company and Trump claiming its proof that GOP tax cuts benefit workers.

TP explained the fine print, unmentioned in the public announcement, saying:

The bonus is only for workers employed at the company for at least 20 years, a tiny fraction of its employees.

Beneficiaries will be rewarded on an unexplained sliding scale. For its 2.1 million employees, the \$400 million announced bonus amounts to an average of \$190 per worker - the

equivalent of less than a way below poverty \$10,000 annual salary, not enough to feed a family and pay rent in substandard housing.

In FY 2017, Walmart had pre-tax profits of around \$20.5 billion. The great GOP tax cut heist will save the company almost \$2 billion annually, maybe more – over 10 years likely over \$20 billion.

It's end-of-2017 \$400 million bonus is one-time. The company will benefit hugely from annual tax savings – almost nothing passed on to workers.

TP: "(I)t appears (Walmart's) announcement was timed carefully to cover for thousands of unannounced layoffs."

At least 68 stores are closing in America alone, including in hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico. In some cases, "employees were not informed of the closures prior to showing up to work on Thursday," TP explained, adding:

They "learned that their store would be closing when they found the store's doors locked and a notice announcing the closure."

Growing evidence shows Trump's "middle class miracle" is nightmarish for American workers – a jobs killer, not a boom, unrelated to economic growth.

In 2017, ahead of the expected tax cut, jobs growth was slowest in the country since 2010.

TP: Walmart was "praise(d) on national TV, while local news chronicled the devastation of mass layoffs" – mainstream media ignoring them.

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My newest book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

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